

GET ANSWERS

The aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene left serious concerns about the quality and effectiveness of our utilities (CL&P) and the state's readiness and response. In late September we held hearings to assess and address what went wrong.

GET ASSISTANCE

How can FEMA or Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) help you or someone you know?

See the other side of this mailing for more information...



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ED MEYER

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GET ASSISTANCE

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From **FEMA**

If you incurred damage or losses as a result of Tropical Storm Irene, you may be eligible for federal assistance. Call **800-621-3362**, or go online at **www.DisasterAssistance.gov** to register with FEMA, which has had a recovery office in Guilford.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance

If you were or are unemployed as a direct result of damages caused by Tropical Storm Irene, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) might be available to you. File a claim with your local TeleBenefits line, which can be found at **www.ct.gov/dol**, or by dialing the Infoline at **2-1-1**. Under federal guidelines, the **deadline for filing for DUA benefits is October 6, 2011**. Claims filed after the deadline may be ineligible for payment.



Senator Meyer asks a question at the post-storm hearings in Hartford



Guilford First Selectman Joseph Mazza and Branford First Selectman "Unk" DaRos testify before a joint legislative hearing on Connecticut's readiness and response to Tropical Storm Irene.

Legislative Hearings

I requested an investigation, and we held hearings and asked the tough questions of the utilities about lengthy power outages, lack of communication with municipalities, and assistance for hard-hit small towns. Just as importantly, we listened to suggestions from the public and local officials based on their experiences.

Moving Forward

We are committed to ensuring Connecticut is better prepared for the next power emergency. Our utility companies need to implement a better plan of action which includes:

- Improving coordination with town leaders so downed powerlines and trees are cleared as soon as possible
- Better informing residents of repair status
- Prioritizing power restoration for health care facilities
- Revising their tree-trimming policy in order to reduce future outages while respecting environmental concerns